

# ***Renton: The State of the City***



City of  
**Renton**









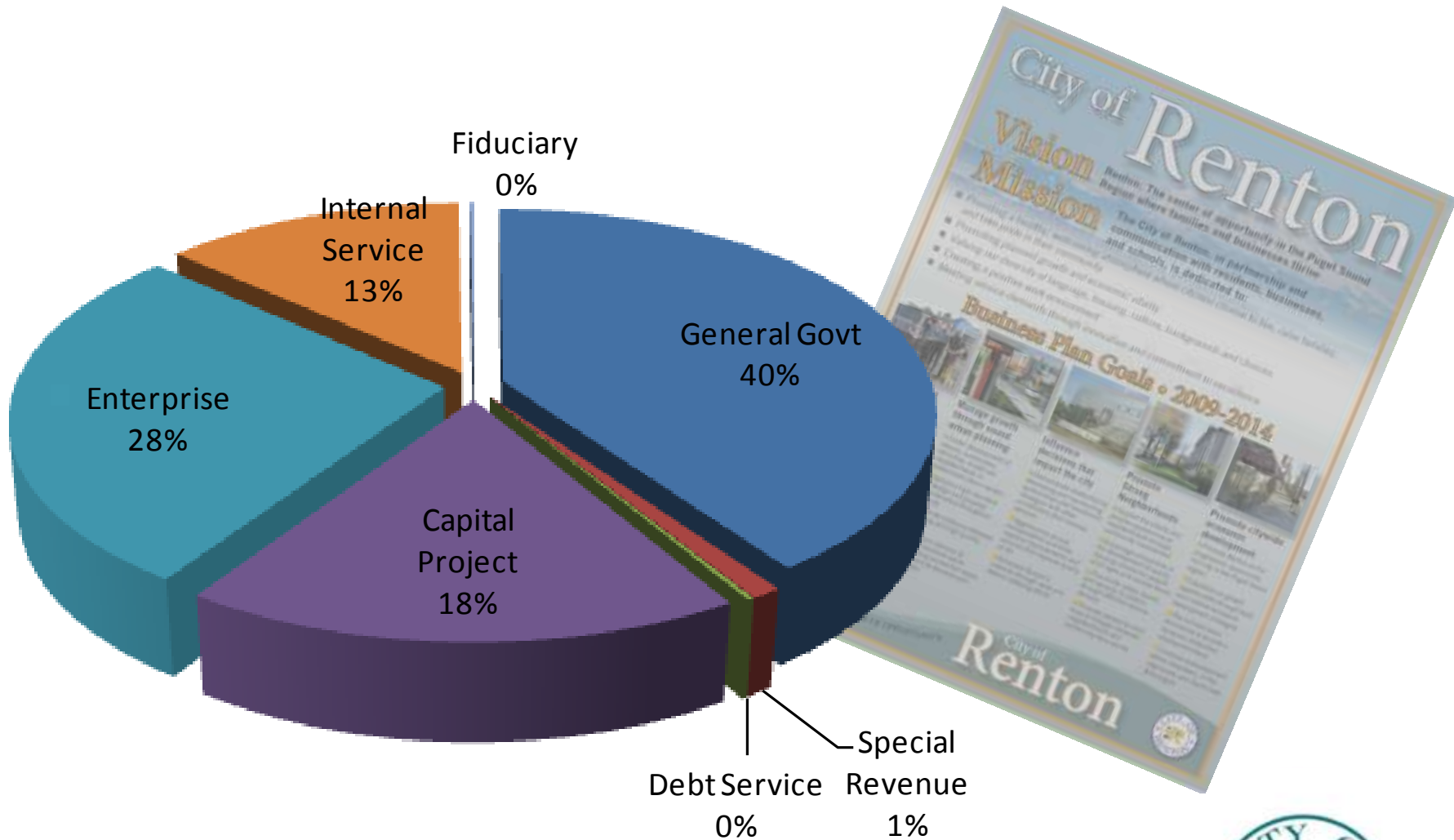






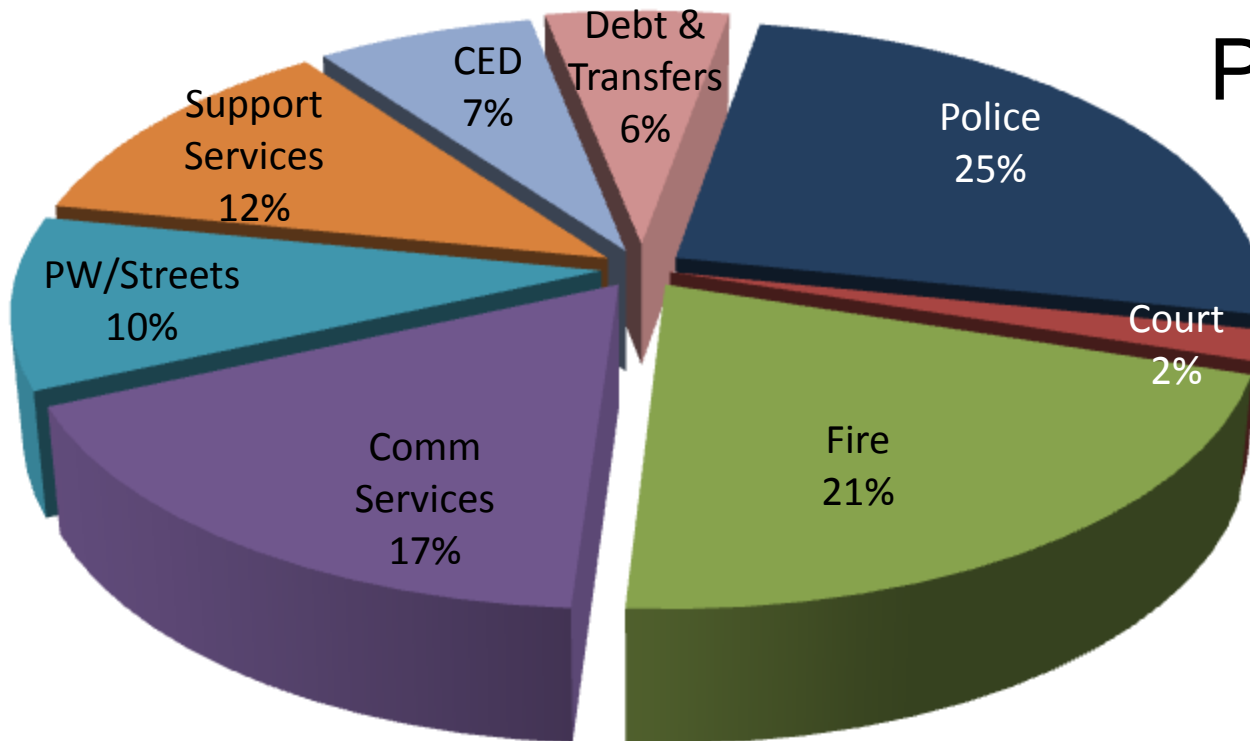


# Total Proposed Budget \$252 Million



# General Government Expenditure

## \$101.5 Million

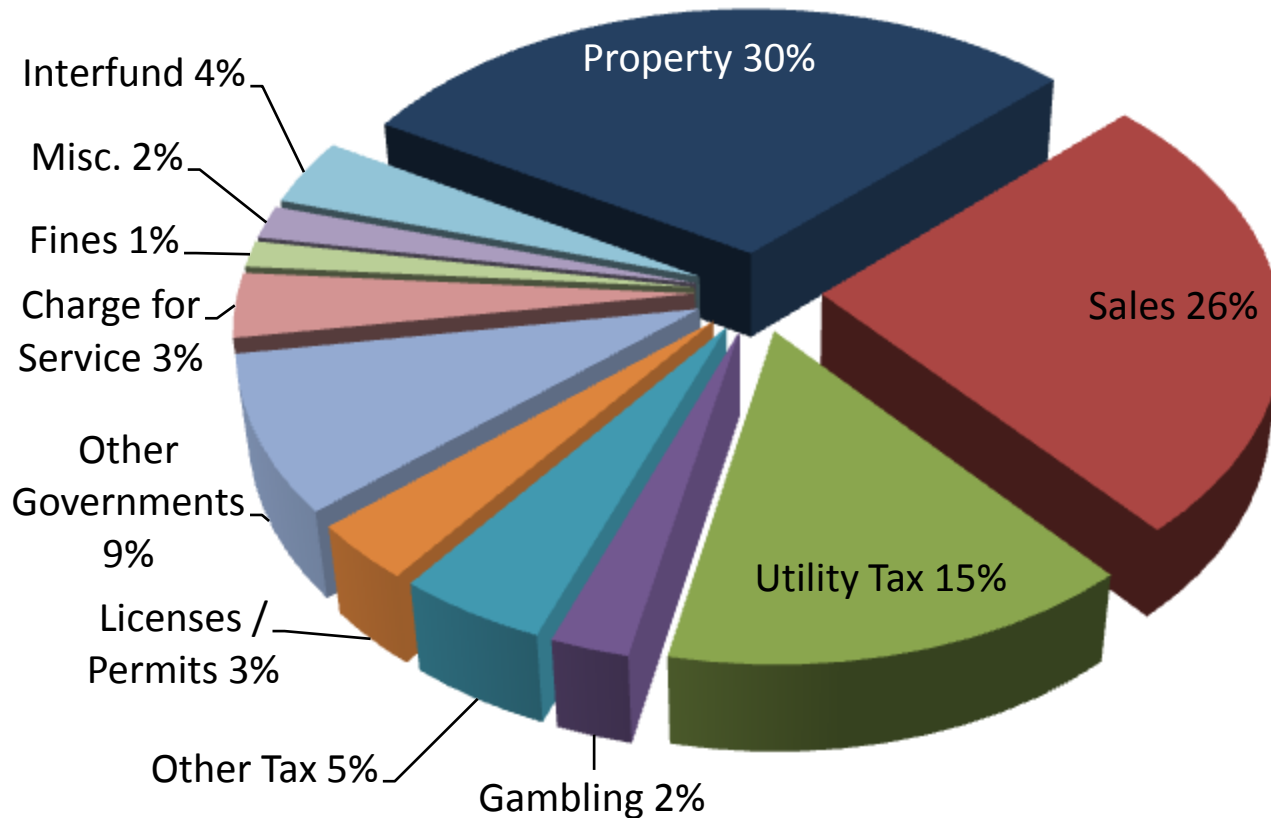


Public Safety  
= 48%



# General Government Revenue

## \$100.8 Million

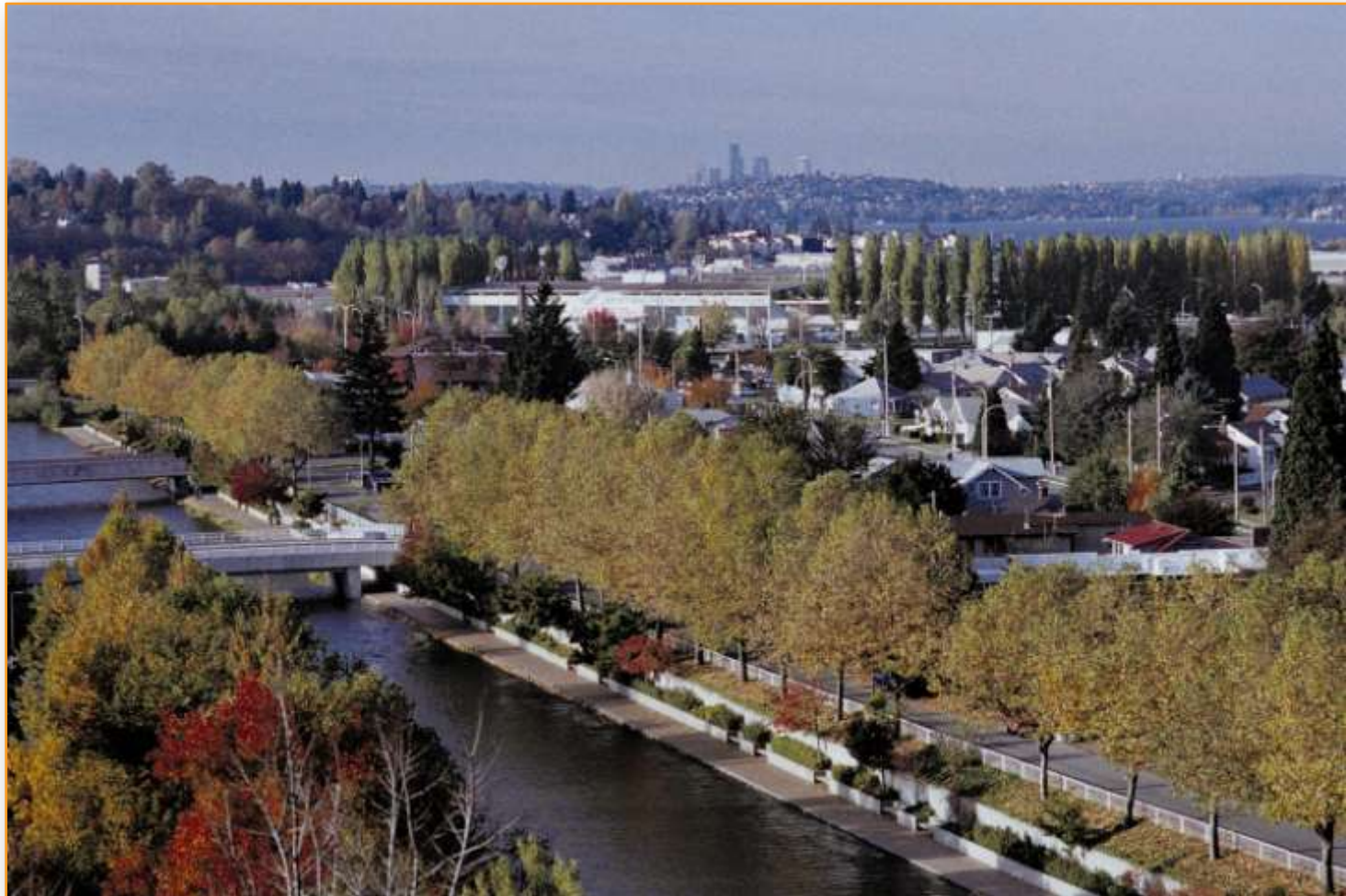


Taxes  
=  
78%









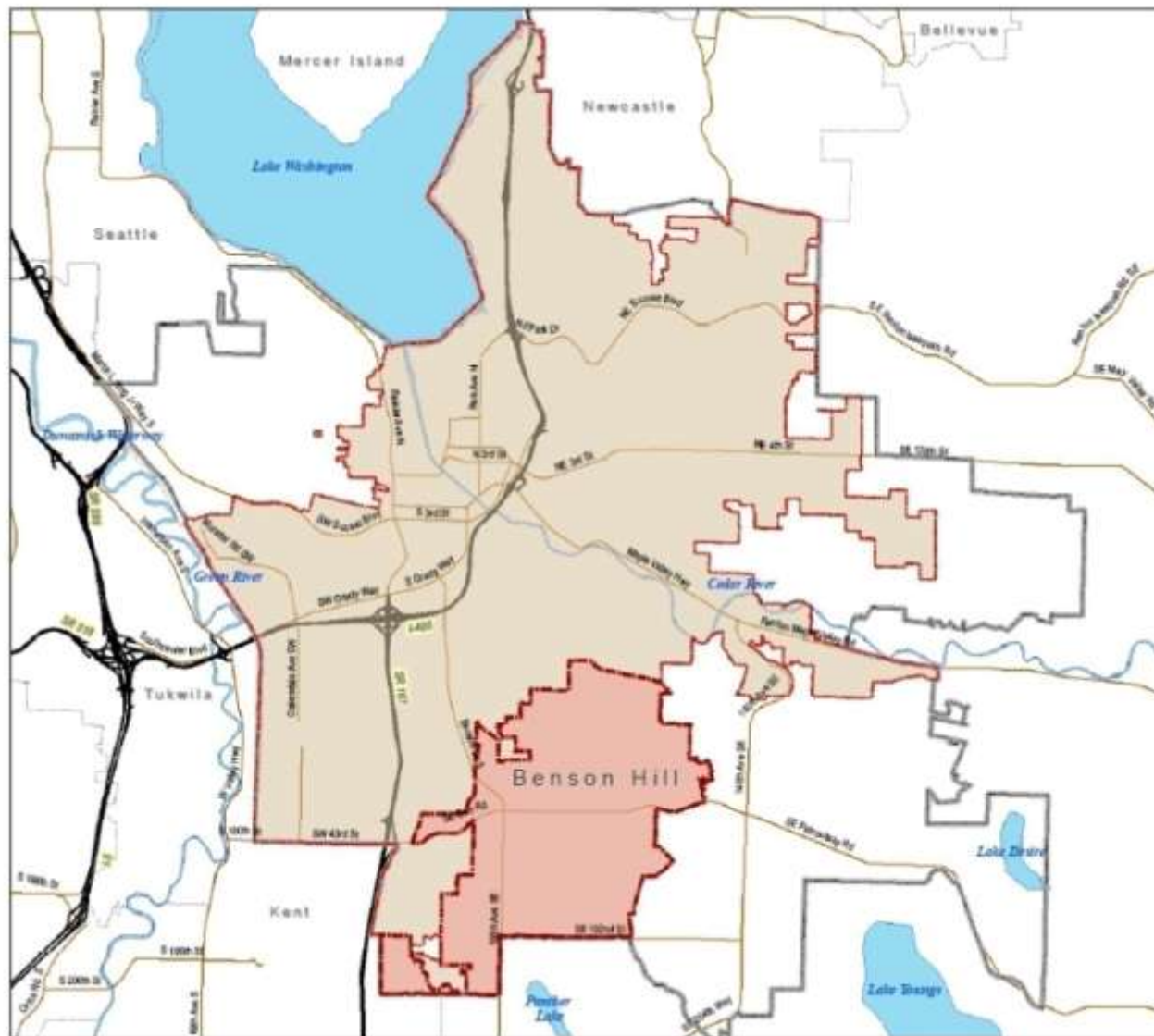




























**RENTON**  
AHEAD OF THE CURVE











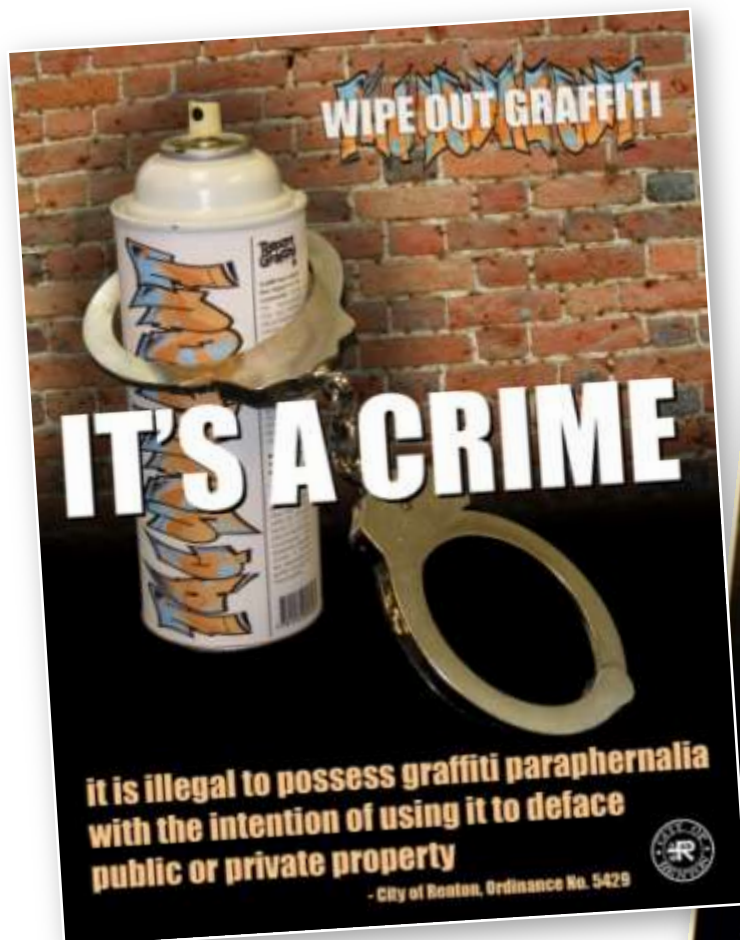






Photo by Steve Ringman/Seattle Times





# ***Renton's MOST WANTED***

***Rentonwa.gov***

















**HAWKS LANDING HOTEL**



**SEAHAWKS TRAINING FACILITY**



**HAWKS LANDING HOTEL**



**BARBEE MILL RESIDENTIAL COMMUNITY**



**HAWKS LANDING HOTEL**





























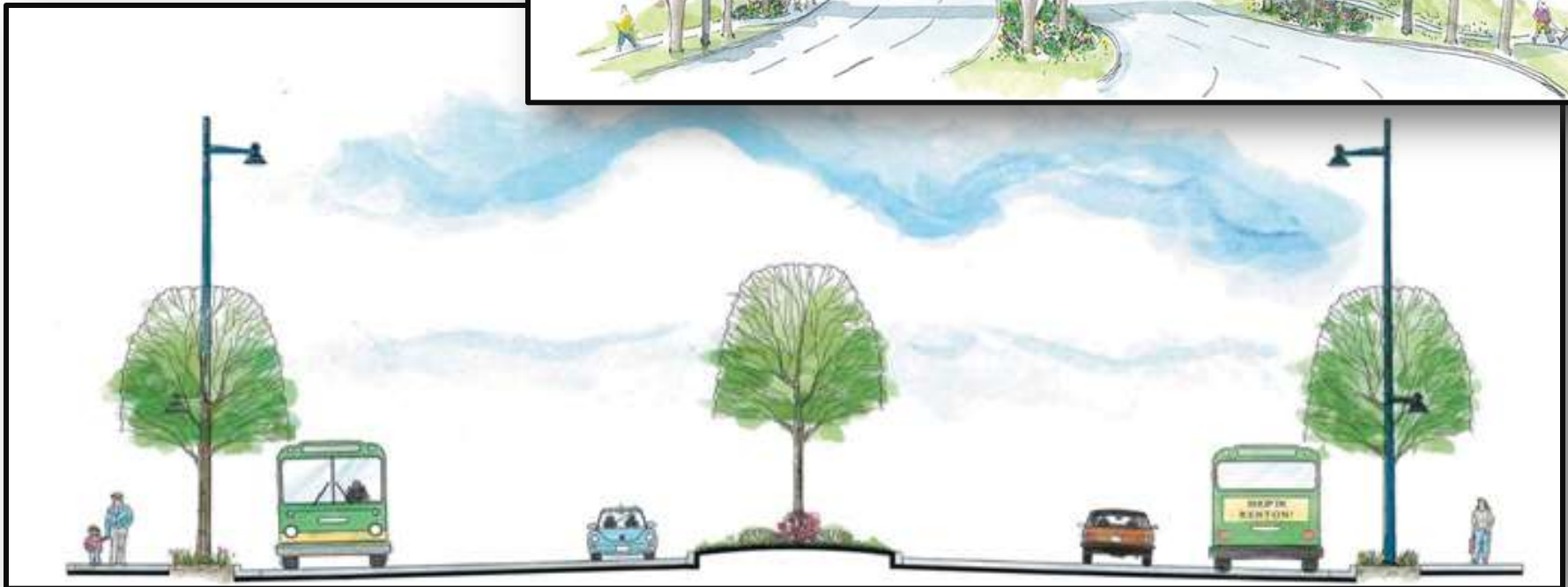
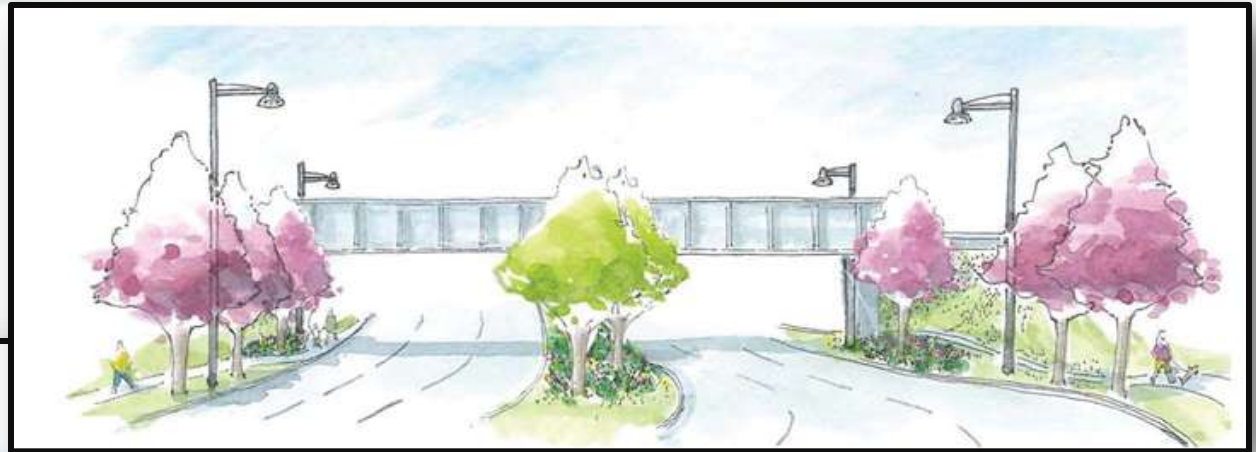




Looking North



# ***Rainier Avenue***































**RENTON**  
AHEAD OF THE CURVE

SEARCH

Type search here

GO

Living

Neighborhoods  
Parks  
Recreation  
more...

Working

City Jobs  
Other Renton Jobs  
Volunteering  
more...

Visiting

Lodging  
Shop and Dine  
more...

Business

Economic  
Development  
Land Use  
more...

Government

Mayor  
Council  
Departments  
more...

Emergencies

9-1-1  
Be Prepared  
more...



## Quicklinks

Living in Renton

Online Services

News

Business

Key Projects

13



Calendar of  
Meetings and  
Events



Renton CityNews



Award-Winning  
Show  
[The Curve](#)  
[SuperBowl Ad](#)



Channel 21  
Video Archives



Disaster  
Preparedness  
Informational  
Video

## Welcome to the City of Renton

Renton is the center of opportunity where families and businesses thrive.

The city welcomes you to our website designed to serve current and prospective residents, businesses, employees, and visitors.

### Spotlight News Page

Read about the latest events and news happening in Renton [here](#).

### State of the City Address



**Wednesday, March 18, 11:30 a.m., Holiday Inn, Renton.** Mayor Denis Law will deliver his 2009 State of the City address and highlight the city's recent accomplishments and present new programs

and initiatives.

### Howard Hanson Dam Update

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers will began slowly allowing water levels to rise within Howard Hanson Dam's reservoir in March. This operation mimics normal spring operations, but will also allow for testing and in-depth investigations following the damage to the dam's right abutment during flooding this past January. [Read More](#), [Fact Sheet](#).



### EPA Fix a Leak Week

Join Renton in Fix a Leak Week, March 16 to 20. This week is an opportunity to improve the water efficiency of your home. [Read More](#).



## Renton Municipal Arts Commission presents original mixed media artwork

by Daniel Wend at Carco Theatre

The Renton Municipal Arts Commission proudly presents original mixed media artwork by local artist Daniel Wend. The exhibit will be on display from February 14 through March 28, 2009.

Daniel Wend works are evocative of miniature topographies, bursting with river basins, volcanoes and fault zones.

Carco Theatre, open 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday and is located at 1717 Maple Valley Highway. Please call 425-430-6706 or [read for more](#) information.



# **SCORE**

**South  
Correctional  
Entity**





**SPECIAL EDITION**



# RentonCityNews

March/April 2009

## RENTON: THE STATE OF THE CITY

Our region and city are experiencing one of the most difficult periods of our lifetimes, but even in these trying times, the state of our city is strong. With the exceptional vision and leadership of the City Council and the efforts of each and every city employee, we have accomplished a great deal in the face of adversity.

We continue to look at every possible way to maintain high quality service to our citizens while making decisions that will ensure our ability to provide critical services.

And though these times will test us, it gives us the opportunity to transform ourselves — an opportunity to keep our city on a path that will lead to enhanced fiscal accountability, greater efficiencies, and a culture of innovation.

The downturn in the U.S. and Puget Sound economies will be felt in Renton.

Renton employment is expected to decline about 3 percent this year. Housing permits dropped from more than 1,300 units in 2007 to 448 in 2008, and further declines are anticipated.

However, this past year Renton was one of only three cities in the Puget Sound region to see a positive growth in retail sales.

In October we passed the city's 2009 budget of \$252 million. Of this, the city's general government operations expenses equal \$101 million, which pays for things such as police, fire and other key services. Due to the decline in the economy we are projecting future deficits of possibly as much as 8 percent.

We are working hard to explore options to determine how best to bridge the gap with the least impact to the community we serve. As the city moves forward we will

maintain a long-term view toward prosperity, while strengthening confidence in city government and making a difference in people's lives.

Despite the economic challenges, Renton has been experiencing some positive gains lately. Businesses continue to open at The Landing and throughout the city, and most stores are exceeding their performance expectations.

Tough times reveal true character, and following these challenging times we will come through this a stronger city. We will make difficult choices today, but attain greater prosperity tomorrow.

— Mayor Denis Law

For a complete copy of the Mayor's state of the city speech, go to [rentonwa.gov](http://rentonwa.gov)

## ACCOMPLISHMENTS

### Unprecedented Growth

The City of Renton population has doubled from about 40,000 in 1990 to over 80,000 in 2008, in part due to the annexation of the Benson Hill area and other neighborhoods adjoining Renton.

### Enhanced Public Safety

- Increased police patrols in downtown and transit center
- Relocated Police Special Operations Division to transit center
- Launched photo enforcement program
- Launched anti-graffiti initiative and passed ordinance to punish offenders
- Emphasized code enforcement; demolished the Don-a-Lisa Motel

### Preparing for Major Disasters

- Successfully responded to several major storms this past winter
- Completed Emergency Management Plans and established "disaster assignments" for all city employees



"We've enjoyed several ribbon-cuttings last year — from the Federal Reserve to the Seahawks Virginia Mason Athletic Center, to several restaurants, stores and the cinemas at The Landing."

— Mayor Denis Law

### Promoting Economic Development

- Numerous businesses opened in 2008 at The Landing and throughout the city
- Renton drew several large employers to the city, including Providence Health and Services, the Seattle Cancer Treatment and Wellness Center, and Downtown Harley Davidson

### Transportation Projects

- Duval Avenue construction to be completed this summer, on time and on budget
- Completed improvements to SR169S-405 Interchange
- Finished construction of bike path along Logan Avenue



"Our snow plows and sanding trucks plowed 13,000 miles this winter — the equivalent of plowing half way around the earth's equator."

— Mayor Denis Law

















